

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY EB/AN:WBCOBB:TP

APPROVED BY EB/AN:WBCOBB

CAB - MR. MCMANUS

EA/K - MR. NEWSOME

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R 112138Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, KS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - DISAPPROVAL OF FLYING TIGER SCHEDULE

1. FLYING TIGER LINES (FTL) ADVISES DEPARTMENT THAT KCAB ON OCTOBER 14 REJECTED CERTAIN SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS SUBMITTED BY FTL ON OCTOBER 7 AND OCTOBER 11.

2. KCAB TOOK ISSUE WITH TUESDAY SCHEDULE OF FLIGHT 46 TO BE OPERATED BANGKOK/HONG KONG/SEOUL/TOKYO/SAN FRANCISCO. WHILE THIS FLIGHT IS BEING OPERATED ON A DAY BY DAY BASIS UNDER TEMPORARY AUTHORITY, OFFICIAL APPROVAL OF THE KCAB MAY STILL BE LACKING. FTL OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE REASON FOR THE REJECTION IS BASED ON KOREAN RELUCTANCE TO RECOGNIZE THE BEYOND RIGHTS GRANTED THE US CARRIERS IN THE US ROUTES AS DESCRIBED IN THE BILATERAL.

3. KCAB ALSO DISAPPROVED FLIGHT 78 WHICH WAS TO BE OPERATED WITH 747 EQUIPMENT ON A TAIPEI/SEOUL/TOKYO/SAN FRANCISCO ROUTING. THE OUTWARD OR EAST BOUND SECTORS OF BOTH FLIGHTS 46 AND 78 DID NOT INCLUDE SEOUL

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IN THE ITINERARIES AND IN FACT WERE OPERATED UNDER

COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FLIGHT NUMBERS.

4. KOREAN OBJECTIONS TO THE SERVICE OFFERED BY FTL ARE NOT NEW. A SIMILAR PROBLEM AROSE IN JANUARY 1974. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH APPROPRIATE KOREAN AUTHORITIES ONCE AGAIN ON BEHALF FTL DRAWING ON FOLLOWING STATEMENT WHICH MAY, IF EMBASSY BELIEVES APPROPRIATE, BE INCORPORATED IN A LETTER TO KCAB OR AIDE-MEMOIRE TO FONOFF.

5. IT IS THE VIEW OF THE USG THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE US-KOREAN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WHICH SPECIFY THAT THE AGREED ROUTES MAY BE OPERATED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS ALSO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE SPECIFIED ROUTE TO BE OPERATED IN EITHER DIRECTION. THERE IS NOTHING IN THE AGREEMENT WHICH REQUIRES THAT EVERY FLIGHT IN ONE DIRECTION BE MATCHED BY A RETURN FLIGHT IN THE OTHER DIRECTION. THE USG DOES NOT IMPOSE SUCH A REQUIREMENT ON KAL NOR WOULD IT DO SO. FOR THIS REASON WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE BASIS FOR THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE KCAB IN REFUSING APPROVAL OF FLYING TIGER FLIGHTS 46 AND 78 WHICH ORIGINATE AT BEYOND POINTS AND THEN OPERATE VIA SEOUL AND TOKYO TO THE UNITED STATES. IT SEEMS TO THE USG THAT SO LONG AS THESE FLIGHTS CLEARLY SEPARATED BY DIFFERENT FLIGHT NUMBERS FROM EAST BOUND FLIGHTS WHICH DO NOT SERVE SEOUL THE FACT THAT THEY ORIGINATE BEYOND SEOUL AND THEN GO VIA SEOUL AND A POINT IN JAPAN TO THE US MAKES THEM FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE BILATERAL.

6. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED COORDINATE WITH FTL LOCAL REP AND SUPPORT AS APPROPRIATE. KISSINGER

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